



**“Is not this the kind of
fasting I have chosen:
to loose the chains of
injustice and untie the cords
of the yoke,
to set the oppressed free
and break every yoke?”**

— Isaiah 58:6

**Sometimes healing begins with a single step –
like when Nani, once afraid to reveal her leprosy
diagnosis, chose instead to share her story
publicly. That act of courage changed her life and
encouraged others.**

As you move into 2026, be filled with joy that your faithful prayers are more than words. They may be the very step that brings healing, compassion, and dignity to people affected by leprosy, disability, and discrimination.

Your prayers ring out like the Psalmist’s call to “make a joyful noise to the Lord” (Psalm 100:1), joining the worldwide chorus for justice, inclusion, and healing.

While many of us take time to rest and reflect in January, the mission we share continues without pause. For more than 150 years, The Leprosy Mission has worked to break the yoke of leprosy and set people free. Through medical care, education, community outreach, and research, you are part of a global movement that dreams of ending leprosy in this generation. That dream begins and continues with prayer.

Looking Ahead to World Leprosy Day – 25 January

World Leprosy Day is recognised around the world as an opportunity to raise awareness, challenge stigma, and celebrate progress. In many countries

it brings communities together to advocate for those still affected by the disease and its consequences.

Here in Australia, World Leprosy Day has become a special time to gather in churches around the country — thanking God for His faithfulness and for the faithful support of congregations and Prayer Partners like you. Together, we live out Isaiah 58’s call: to break chains, undo burdens, and speak freedom over lives once bound by silence and shame.

This year, we warmly invite your church to take part in World Leprosy Day by hosting a Leprosy Mission Australia speaker. Having a speaker visit is a wonderful way to bring the story of God’s healing love to life. Whether in a Sunday service, mission event, or small group, our speakers share inspiring stories of transformation, faith, and hope from people and communities affected by leprosy around the world.



A Story of Courage: Nani's Journey

Nani, from Indonesia, had her life transformed not just by medicine, but by the love and acceptance of her community — and the power of prayer.

After a long period of misdiagnosis, Nani was devastated to learn she had leprosy. She feared rejection, recalling how in years past her community had forced people with leprosy to live in isolation, far from family and friends. Terrified that history would repeat itself, she asked that her diagnosis be kept secret.

But things began to change when she joined a project educating and empowering people affected by leprosy. At first, she hesitated — “I’ve recovered,” she thought. “Why should I speak up?” Yet when encouraged to help others still seeking treatment and hope, something shifted within her.

She bravely agreed to share her testimony on video — a step that opened the door to healing not just for herself but for many others. She began attending community gatherings, telling her story, and even offered her home for future meetings. There she met others like herself and found solidarity, understanding, and renewed purpose.

“After this activity, I feel more confident and not afraid if people know me as a person affected by leprosy,” Nani shared. “I learn more about self-care.”

Today, Nani is more than a survivor — she is an advocate. She is determined to educate her community and help others access early diagnosis and treatment. Her story is one of transformation — from isolation to inclusion, from silence to strength.

Yours in Prayer,



Glen Coleman
Community Engagement
Coordinator
Leprosy Mission Australia



Will You Pray With Us?

Your prayers as we approach World Leprosy Day are deeply appreciated. Please pray for:

- People still waiting for diagnosis or treatment — that they may find healing and hope.
- Those living with stigma and rejection — that they may experience acceptance and love.
- Community workers and health staff — that they may serve with strength and compassion.
- The Leprosy Mission's work worldwide — that it may be effective, loving, and guided by God's wisdom.
- Churches and prayer partners — that together we may continue to bring God's healing and justice to life.

Add your prayers by emailing
engage@leprosymission.org.au
OR using the enclosed form.

Would You Like to Do More?

Please consider booking a speaker for World Leprosy Day — or another date that suits your church.

Email **engage@leprosymission.org.au** and we'll be in touch.

Nani's story reminds us that healing is more than physical recovery — it's the restoration of dignity, community, and hope. Your support of the Comprehensive Zero Leprosy Project (Co-ZLP) means more people like Nani will experience transformation and live full, joyful lives.



You can support the Co-ZLP Project by **scanning the QR code** or by going to the link below:

<https://www.leprosymission.org.au/co-zlp/ppd07>